



THE SPARK

ECAA E-Newsletter

September 8, 2014

Issue 43

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www.ecaa.ab.ca

Calendar of Events

Upcoming CEC Code Changes Seminars:

Monday, September 29th
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
ECAA Office, Edmonton

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)

These courses are approved by Electrical Technical Council to meet re-certification requirements for Master Electricians and Safety Codes Officers

Upcoming PEC Courses

Project Management
September 19th & 20th, 2014
(Calgary)

Safety Principles
September 25th & 26th, 2014

SEPTEMBER/2014

Welcome to ECAA's E-Newsletter, The Spark!

This e-newsletter was created to keep members informed on the Association's activities and upcoming events in a timely manner.

President's Message

Hello everyone. I hope you have enjoyed the summer as I have. September is already here which brings us into another change in seasons both climate and business. The construction push is again upon us to try and complete our projects in a race against weather and fiscal budget expenditures.



Darcy Teichroeb, PEC

The ECAA office continues to be busy with meetings, training classes, and now planning for the upcoming chapter meetings and events. I will be attending meetings in all our chapters in the coming months and look forward to meeting as many members as possible.

Correspondence and communications continue to happen with our industry partners such as the Alberta Construction Association, Safety Codes Council, and the Canadian Standards Association. This continued relationship building supports our commitment to provide the most current industry activity awareness to our members.

Alberta is host to the 2014 Tour of Alberta featuring World Class Cycling teams and our ECAA will receive wide exposure through the media and staging events with a sponsorship of the event. Good luck to all the teams and riders! The ECAA Board will be back in session with monthly meetings starting September 19 to continue the growth and development of our association. Enjoy what is left of summer and play safe!

Darcy Teichroeb, PEC
ECAA President

Industry News

Safety Codes Act consultation - response by September 8. A survey was sent by separate email to ECAA members. Reminder today is the deadline to complete it. Participate by completing the online survey - [Link to survey](#).

(Edmonton)

Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE)
October 3rd & 4th, 2014
(Calgary)

**Assessing & Finalizing the
Tender**
October 16th & 17th, 2014
(Edmonton)

Tradeshows

**2014 Alberta Employment
&
Career Fair**

October 3rd & 4th, 2014
Edmonton Expo Center

If you are interested in
volunteering please contact
chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

Join Our List

Social Networking

Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board vacancy.

Beginning April 1, 2015 there will be a vacancy on the AIT Board for an employee representative in the designated trades. Selection of members to the Board is based both on the knowledge and skills of individual applicants, and on maintaining a balanced representation so that the Board reflects the diversity of the apprenticeship and industry training system. To maintain that balance, preference will be given to applicants from the north east area of Alberta who work for an industrial employer. Anyone wanting to apply should visit www.jobs.alberta.ca between September 5th-22nd for application details. Interested applicants with questions are asked to please contact Brian Frevel, Director-Policy, Research and Board Support, at 780-427-5811 (or email brian.frevel@gov.ab.ca).

Division 16 Curling League will begin October 1st at the Avonair Curling Club, 10507 Princess Elizabeth Avenue, Edmonton. **Draw time 6:00 pm on Wednesday's.** Will end approximately March 4th. It is a mixed league and we have a lot of fun throughout the year. Everyone gets a prize and we have a nightly raffle Registration form emailed to ECAA members (and available on ECAA website www.ecaa.ab.ca). Interested curlers can contact Dwight Hunter by phone: 780 475 4499; Fax: 789 475 2536 or Cell: 780 940 9167. Regards, Ray Sheskey and Dwight Hunter.

FROM ACA WEBSITE:

New deal improves labour mobility for apprentices.

Alberta and Nova Scotia have signed an agreement in principle to ensure apprenticeship training is transferable between both provinces. This agreement will improve the recognition of in-province training, allow for the recognition of apprenticeship work experience hours and enhance labour mobility for apprentices in both provinces. Under this arrangement, if an apprentice takes pre-apprenticeship training at the Nova Scotia Community College (NSCC) and then moves to Alberta, their training will be recognized. This will save apprentices from writing additional exams or repeating courses. The two provinces are also working on an agreement that would make the process of moving between Nova Scotia and Alberta easier and less expensive for apprentices to continue their education. This cooperation between the two provinces will further support Nova Scotia's efforts to modernize its apprenticeship system. On July 1, the Nova Scotia government transferred the apprenticeship training division of the Department of Labour and Advanced Education to a separate agency focused on getting more employers involved, improving the number of apprenticeship opportunities in the province and helping more apprentices complete their training. The agency will work with industry to identify further opportunities for harmonization of apprenticeship training in the country. In addition to this agreement, Alberta strongly supports inter-provincial mobility of apprentices and journeymen:

- Alberta is working with other provinces and territories through the New West Partnership agreement and the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship to enhance apprenticeship mobility.
- Alberta recognizes registered apprentices and journeymen from other Canadian jurisdictions at the same level as their home jurisdiction and facilitates the transition of apprentices between provinces.
- Under the provisions of the agreement on internal trade, the Alberta Apprenticeship and Industry Training Board also recognizes the qualifications of journeymen from across Canada.

OHS Futures - Research Funding Program.

The Government of Alberta's Occupational Health and Safety Policy and Program Development Branch is excited to share with you the start of the OHS Futures: Research Funding Program. OHS Futures is a research funding program to help support a better understanding of occupational health and safety issues in Alberta's workplaces. This program will enhance the partnership between the OHS Program and experts in our province and across Canada to make better policy for the issues of today and the emerging issues of tomorrow.

The OHS Futures will distribute up to \$1 million per year for three years beginning in 2014, with a variety of OHS proposals funded.

- The program is designed to fund a range of research projects.
- The projects funded will address a variety of topics depending on OHS Program needs.

Applications are NOW AVAILABLE online at <http://work.alberta.ca/occupational-health-safety/ohs-futures.html> . The submission deadline is October 15, 2014. There is additional information on the website regarding priority research areas, eligibility and assessment.

For more ACA news visit <http://albertaconstruction.net/>

Board of Directors Update

Next meeting is September 19th which will include reviewing ECAA goals and a Board Orientation.

Open door policy: Reminder that ECAA Board of Directors invites those interested in sitting in on a Provincial Board meeting and bring forth ideas or just to gain a little perspective. Please contact Sheri McLean (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca) to sit in on a future meeting. Members also encouraged to attend a Chapter Executive meeting to gain more insight into what your volunteers do.

Have something to say?

ECAA is currently looking for guest writers for the Spark. Contact Darcy or Sheri.

Local Chapter Activity

CALGARY: Next meeting **Thursday, September 11th** at the Best Western Port O'Call. **Guest Speaker:** Craug Foley, Director & Nicole Genereux, Strategy Leader
Topic of Discussion: All in for Youth - United Way Calgary

EDMONTON: Next chapter meeting **Monday, September 15th**, Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Centre. **Guest Speakers:** Kids Up Front Charity & JudyLynn Archer, Women Building Futures. **Topic of Discussion:** Best Practices for Hiring & Retaining Tradeswomen

BOB CARSON CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT: Edmonton Chapter 25th Annual Bob Carson Classic will take place on **Wednesday, September 10th, 2014** at the Highlands Golf Course. Thank you again to all those sponsoring a hole and donated golf prizes for the event. Thank you!

FORT McMURRAY: Next chapter meeting scheduled for **Tuesday, September 16th**, at the Chateau Nova. **Guest Speaker:** Dave Bentley, Hub International

Phoenix Insurance Brokers. **Topic of Discussion:** Changing Face of Contract Security

New Members

Welcome new Contractor Members: **Fused Power Systems** (Edmonton) **Three 60 Electrical** (Calgary); **Walker Electric** (Edmonton)

Associate Members: **Erico International** (Calgary); **Finning Power Systems**(Edmonton); **Prolux Lighting** (Calgary); **Western One Generator** (Fort McMurray)

Professional Electrical Contractor (PEC) News

PEC's need 60 APD points. If you were a PEC on Jan 1, 2013 by Dec 31 2015, or in 545 days, you will need to have earned 60 Annual Professional Development (APD) points. If you became a PEC after Jan 1, 2013 you do not need to get any points for the year you received your PEC. If you became a PEC in 2013 then for Dec 31, 2015 you would need only 40 points; 20 for 2014 and 20 for 2015. If you became a PEC in 2014 then for Dec 31, 2015 you would need only 20 points for 2015.

RECORDING AND TRACKING YOUR APD POINTS

To have your APD points counted you must enter online and send a written verification to the ECAA office.

1. RECORDING APD POINTS ONLINE: To assist you to enter your APD points online or to learn which categories are available and how to count your points we have provided step by step instructions . A 7 minute video has also been produced by the ECAA office to show you how to fill out the APD online form.

How to get to the APD online form: Go to Annual Professional Development (APD) Form on the Electrical Contractors Association of Alberta website (www.ecaa.ab.ca)

1.1. Log in

1.2. Click on the PEC Annual Professional Development Form to get started, located on the lower left hand side under the grey navigator panel.

1.3. Select the year in which you are reporting your points .

Just above the year selection, you will see two lines in green that start with "click here"

One is for step by step instructions to complete the APD form and the other is the 7 minute video on how to fill out the form.

Note since this APD date entry requires your log in, ECAA office cannot enter the data for you. thy only see the points for each category and total for the year.

2. TRACKING YOUR APD POINTS

2.1 In addition to entering on line you must also submit a written confirmation of APD points to ECAA office. If the APD activity you are claiming points for issues a document (certificate or transcript of marks Training day sign off sheet, you can just photocopy this and submit). If no document available from your activity just print of the on line from your filled out to report the APD points date and sign the form and send it to ECAA office where it is put in your file. This written submission is to be done in the year you earned the points. Yes there will be spot audits and

these written records will be the paper trail that will be audited.

WHY DO WE HAVE APD POINTS:

The P of PEC stands for Professional. As a professional designation we need to demonstrate that we are staying current in our trade. It is suggested that a PEC attain 20 points per year, but must reach 60 points in three years. See the "ECAA PEC Annual Professional Development Requirements draft 3-14 " located [here](#) or request the ECAA office to email you a copy. Remember you can get up to 18 of the 20 required points by attending the annual training day and PEC AGM and ECAA AGM. Also you can earn points by attending chapter meetings.

FAQ:

What happens if I do not get my 60 APD points by Dec 31, 2015? Refer to ECAA PEC Annual Professional Development Requirements which lists the process to accommodate exceptional individual circumstances.

For any questions please contact Christine at the ECAA office. chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

Thank you,

Mike Fleming PEC # 36.

INSTRUCTOR REQUIRED: ECAA PROJECT MANAGEMENT PEC COURSE

is seeking a second instructor (eventual successor) for the "Project Management" course of the PEC program. Due to program growth and the need for course continuity ECAA intends to have additional instructional staff in place for all PEC courses. This individual would audit the September 19th & 20th, 2014 Calgary PEC Electrical Project Management course and then team teach as required for future courses. Preference will be given to individuals who have PEC certification and who have current experience in electrical project management. Preference will also be given to those with formal project management training and instructional experience. Any questions contact Mike Fleming PEC (retired PMP and current instructor) at mike.fleming07@gmail.com

Applications for this position may be sent to ECAA 17725 - 103 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5S 1N8 Attention: Sheri McLean (smclean@ecaa.ab.ca)

SAVE THE DATE: ECAA Training Day, Friday, May 22nd, 2015 Copper Point Resort

Invermere, BC. This year's Training Day recently held in Edmonton proved to be successful and very well attended. Thank you to all the facilitators that helped facilitate each stream. We are currently looking for ideas and suggestions for themes and sessions to include in Training Day 2015. Any ideas can be emailed to cantelo55@gmail.com or smclean@ecaa.ab.ca .

Continuing Education

Registrations are being accepted for all courses scheduled in 2014 form on ECAA website under PEC section and in Calendar of Events: Contact Christine Hryniw (chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca) to register or for more information on the program.

[2014 - 2015 PEC COURSE REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Project Management, September 19th & 20th, 2014 (Calgary) Increased

competition is eroding profit margins across the board. To be successful in today's marketplace, electrical contractors need to work smarter - not harder. The Project Management course will teach you practical, hands-on skills to:

- identify and recover all costs to which you are entitled
- avoid paying for others' errors or omissions
- reduce project costs through effective purchasing and administration
- identify cost overruns - and take corrective action
- use effective record keeping systems to enhance project profitability

Safety Principles, September 25th & 26th, 2014 (Edmonton) A well developed safety program can reduce costs resulting from injury and property damage, and is the hallmark of a quality electrical contracting firm.. The first day of the course shows you each step to develop and implement an effective safety program for your small to medium sized electrical contracting firm. The next day is designed to help managers ensure construction supervisors fine-tune their safety skills by:

- clearly understanding what their safety roles and responsibilities are
- presenting and delivering effective training to workers and maintaining high worksite safety standards
- conducting effective site inspections - and developing appropriate recommendations
- investigating - the steps to follow and processes involved

Basic Electrical Estimating (BEE), October 3rd & 4th, 2014 (Calgary) For small contractors who are not ready to make the investment in a computerized estimating system. Designed to teach new contractors the fundamentals of preparing an electrical estimate using the Elemental Format hands-on. The course will address material take-off, pricing of materials, labouring of materials using the NECA Manual of Labour Units, labour costs, special overheads, general overheads and profit/contingencies.

Assessing & Finalizing the Tender, October 16th & 17th, 2014 (Edmonton) This course for the Professional Electrical Contractor courses covers organizing the estimate, finalizing the tender, and computer aid in estimating and finalizing the tender. Since the course is aimed at Professional Electrical Contractors, very little time is spent on basic take-offs. The course addresses calculations of various overheads, mark-up theories, labor factors, evaluating risk factors, and the like, all concerns that the active business manager meets up with every day. These three parts of this course are designed to create an awareness in the Professional Electrical Contractor of the various business principles involved in preparing his or her tenders.

ONLINE TRAINING AVAILABLE THROUGH ECAA.

FIRST LEVEL SUPERVISOR TRAINING PROGRAM

This course offers the critical basic skills and concepts needed to supervise a crew in the residential, institutional, commercial, industrial and civil construction sectors. For more information click on the following link [First Level Supervisor Training Program](#)

Course cost is \$400 and to enroll contact Christine chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca

ELECTRICAL SAFETY TRAINING SYSTEM (ESTS) is a computer based, distance delivered program that recognizes Provincial & Federal Occupational Health & Safety Regulations. The program promotes a "Plan, Do, Check, Act" philosophy applying CSA Z462, based on CSA Z1000 Occupational Health & Safety Management System Standard. *Course is complimentary to all unionized electrical contractors and their employees that have a bargaining relationship with the IBEW Local 424.* Contact Christine (chryniw@ecaa.ab.ca) to sign up.

ON-LINE ETHICS COURSE. This course is designed for the Certified Master Electrician (CME) that desires to maintain that designation and for any Registered Master Electrician (RME) or Master electrician that desires to become a CME Information at www.ecaa.ab.ca (Ethics course).

If you are an ECAA Contractor or Associate member and would like us to help promote an industry or company event please contact us directly at 1-800-252-9375.

We value your feedback and it is important to us. Please submit any comments to smclean@ecaa.ab.ca.

The next issue of The Spark will be emailed Friday, October 3rd, 2014.



Electrical Contractors
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